our fourfooted friends

A publication of the Animal Rescue League of Boston spring 1997

Neglected Horses Benefit From A Community's Kindness

1996 Annual Report

Oops, When Spaying or Neutering Comes After the Fact

Pet Overpopulation

Mark Your Calendar!

Please join us for these upcoming League events. If you have questions or would like to assist at an event, please call Volunteer Coordinator Rena Bly at 617-426-9170, ext. 126.

APRIL

12 Low Cost Rabies Clinic
Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
League Headquarters

22 Earth Day
Fishing Lines and Other Hazards Endangering Wildlife"
Tuesday, 12:30 p.m.
League Headquarters
Humane Education Lecture Series

24 Annual Meeting
Thursday, 2:30 p.m.
League Headquarters

26 Low Cost Rabies Clinic
Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Engine Company #20
301 Neponset Avenue, Dorchester

MAY

3 Be Kind To Animals Week Preview - Open Houses
Saturday, time TBA
All Branches

3 "Bunny Brunch"
Saturday, 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
League Headquarters
Rabbit lovers of all ages are invited.

4 Blessing of the Animals/ Humane Awards
Sunday, time TBA
Dedham Branch
55 Anna's Place (at 238 Pine Street)

7 "Choosing the Right Pet for You and Your Family"

Wednesday, 12:30 p.m.
League Headquarters
Humane Education Lecture Series

10 Dog Obedience Classes
Saturday, time TBA
(1st of 8 week session)
League Headquarters

17 Low Cost Rabies Clinic
Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Engine Company #52
975 Blue Hill Avenue, Dorchester

JUNE

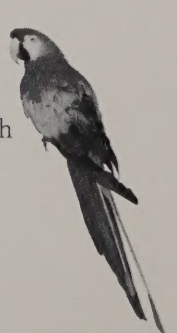
11 "Tips for Keeping Your Pets Cool During Summer Months"
Wednesday, 12:30 p.m.
League Headquarters
Humane Education Lecture Series

14 Family Photos with Your Pet
Saturday, time TBA
Dedham Branch
55 Anna's Place (at 238 Pine Street)

JULY

15 "Rescue is Our Middle Name" Equipment Demo
Tuesday, 12:30 p.m.
League Headquarters
Humane Education Lecture Series

26 Animal Friends Pet Show
Saturday, 9:00 a.m.
Nye Field, North Falmouth



Our fourfooted friends

Volume 94, No. 1 Spring 1997

Publisher of
our fourfooted friends

Arthur G. Slade
Editor

Bob Howard
Photo Editor

Officers

Richard A. Hall
Chairman of the Board

Arthur G. Slade
President

Hewitt Morgan, Jr.
Treasurer

Mrs. Elizabeth D. Smith
Assistant Treasurer

John F. Sugden, Jr.
Secretary

Directors

Walter M. Bird, Jr.
Paul J. Brennan
Mrs. Alexander H. Bright
Sierra Bright
Shepard Brown
Mrs. William L. Brown
Mrs. John E. Dawson
Rev. Robert W. Golledge, D.D.
Mrs. Kenneth Gregg
Richard A. Hall
John C. Hatch
Holly Kelsey, V.M.D.
Franklin King, Jr.
Mrs. Jeffrey E. Marshall
Hewitt Morgan, Jr.
Harold H. Seward
June E. Shank
Arthur G. Slade
Elizabeth Dick Smith
John F. Sugden, Jr.
John L. Worden III

Administrative

Edward J. Powers
Director of Operations

Barbara S. Nadeau
Director of Human Resources

Todd M. Hutchinson
Controller

Bosmat Gal, D.V.M.
Director of Veterinary Medicine

Thomas H. White
Director of Criminal Investigation and Legislative Services

Alan B. Borgal
Law Enforcement Coordinator

Laura MacFeeley
Director of Membership

Sonia L. DiTommaso
Director of Education and Public Relations

Rena Bly
Volunteer Coordinator

Animal Shelters

Boston
Corner of Arlington & Tremont Sts.
P. O. Box 265, Boston, MA 02117-0265
Sharon Krogh, *Manager*
(617) 426-9170

Cape Cod
Route 6A, E.
Brewster, MA 02631-0023
Lynda Brogden, *Manager*
(508) 255-1030

North Shore
358 Highland Ave.
Salem, MA 01970-1744
Laura Caruso, *Manager*
(508) 744-7910

Dedham
Pine Ridge Animal Center
55 Anna's Place (At 238 Pine St.)
Dedham, MA 02026-4005
(617) 326-0729

Safford Memorial Animal Shelter
Pine Ridge Cemetery for Animals
Lisa Lagos, *Manager*

Animal Friends Summer School
96 Megansett Rd.
N. Falmouth, MA 02556-0800

Visit our web site at: http://arl-boston.org

Our fourfooted friends

(US ISSN 0030 6851) Published quarterly by the Animal Rescue League of Boston, 10 Chandler Street, Boston, MA 02116-5221. Price $4.00 a year. Office of Publication, Animal Rescue League of Boston, 10 Chandler Street, Boston, MA 02116-5221. Address all correspondence, editorial, subscriptions to the Animal Rescue League of Boston, P. O. Box 265, Boston, MA 02117-0265. Postmaster: Send address changes to the Animal Rescue League of Boston, P. O. Box 265, Boston, MA 02117-0265. Second Class Postage has been paid at Boston, Massachusetts, and other mailing locations.

Printed on recycled paper with environmentally friendly inks.

In this issue

features

2 Neglected Horses Benefit From A Community's Kindness

8 1996 Annual Report

10 Oops, When Spaying or Neutering Comes After the Fact

12 Pet Overpopulation

departments

2 Rescue News

3 A Veterinary Update

4 Newsfront

12 Animal Friends

14 Pets in the Picture
Gone But Not Forgotten

16 Sit Up & Beg

On the Cover

Yohoudie, cherished pet of Shaun Thomas, senses spring in the air as he sits on his favorite perch and admires the flowers in the beautiful flower box constructed by Al LoConte.

Rescue News

Molly (front) and Sissy graze happily at the League's Pine Ridge Animal Center in Dedham

Neglected Horses Benefit From A Community's Kindness

The Animal Rescue League of Boston came to the rescue of neglected equines in East Brookfield, Massachusetts, recently. The law enforcement officers had arranged for the voluntary surrender of the horses, mini horses, and ponies due to their poor condition. However, when the League arrived on schedule to trailer the animals, 16 of the worst equines had been removed from the farm. With the help of the media, the League spread the word that the horses were missing and needed help. The neglected animals were found to have been sold at auction and subsequently located throughout the state. Thanks to assistance from the public, the horses quickly received the attention they needed.

Multiple veterinarians, including those at Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine, treated the equines. They are currently being cared for by the Animal Rescue League of Boston's Pine Ridge Animal Center in Dedham and by the Boston Mounted Police. In addition, some of the remaining animals are with their auction buyers. The League is working with these auction buyers to rehabilitate their pets.

All of the horses suffered from malnutrition as well as lack of basic preventative care, while several others had medical problems. The League's Law Enforcement Department is continuing to investigate this case and interview witnesses. The Animal Rescue League of Boston thanks the public for its assistance.

League staff from all four shelters have been involved in the care of these horses. The main concern now is the rehabilitation and eventual placement of the remaining animals. Anyone interested in donating funds for the care of these equines please send a check to the Animal Rescue League of Boston, P. O. Box.265, Boston, MA 02117, Attn: Equine Care Fund.

A Veterinary UPDATE

Spring 3

by Bosmat Gal, D.V. M.

Acupuncture for Animals

Alternative medicine for humans is rapidly growing in popularity. In the field of veterinary medicine, alternative therapies are also gaining acceptance. Acupuncture for animals is one of the most popular forms of alternative therapy. Owners who find conventional medicines and surgery increasingly complex and expensive are looking for other options. Acupuncture and other alternative therapies are popular because they are cheaper, have few side effects and do not interfere with existing treatments. Therefore, many veterinarians are looking to acupuncture but prefer to use it as a complementary therapy rather than a replacement for traditional medicine.

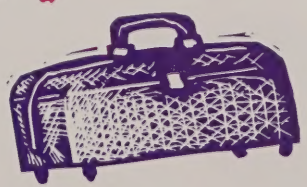
Acupuncture is a 4,000 year old treatment developed by the Chinese. It is based on the principle of a harmonious balance of mind, body and the external environment. The procedure involves inserting solid needles into precise points along the body. Originally there were approximately 380 recognized acupuncture points but now the number has grown to over 2,000. In veterinary medicine only about 150 points are commonly used. The animal is kept still and comfortable for the duration of the five- to 30-minute treatment. When the treatment is effective the animal responds well, often relaxing to the point of falling asleep. Initial treatment can range from twice a day to once a week. Initially a three- to four-week regimen is sufficient. Long-term treatment may require continued sessions once a month to once a year.

Companion animals who suffer from musculoskeletal conditions such as hip dysplasia, Lyme disease and degenerative joint disease are most commonly and most successfully treated with acupuncture. Canine and feline neurological disorders which include epilepsy, nerve paralysis and vestibular syndromes have also been found to respond to acupuncture. Many gastrointestinal conditions are also being relieved through acupuncture including inflammatory bowel disease, colitis, mobility disorders, as well as nonresponsive diarrhea and constipation problems. The treatments of dermatologic, reproductive, and a host of other conditions are also finding acupuncture to be helpful.

Any addition to the protocol that will give an animal comfort while not inhibiting the effects of conventional medicine is welcome. And in the case of acupuncture, perhaps the "alternative medicine" is the solution itself.

* Information for this article reprinted by permission of Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine Animal Health Newsletter.

Do you have a question regarding general pet health? Please send it to Veterinary Update c/o Animal Rescue League of Boston, P.O. Box 265, Boston, MA, 02117.



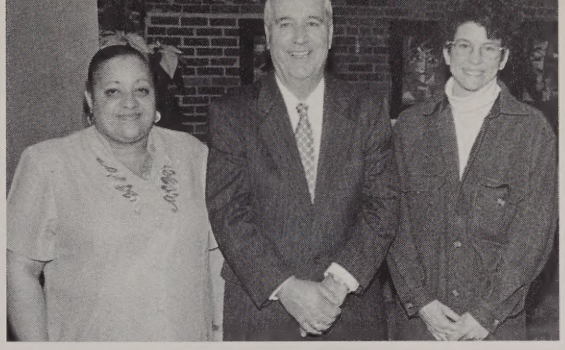
News from

League Law Enforcement Officers Receive Citations

Lt. Alan Borgal (left) and Captain Thomas White of the League's Law Enforcement Department proudly display their special citations from the Boston Police Department.

League Law Enforcement Officers Alan Borgal and Thomas White recently received special citations from the Boston Police Department. According to a letter from Boston Police Captain Robert P. Dunford, during the summer of 1996 the Boston Police Department's Community Services Office received a record-breaking number of dog complaints. Problems ranged from barking dogs to the most disturbing: youths using dogs in illegal activity. To combat the problem as well as educate the community, League officers and personnel from the City of Boston Animal Control Unit and The Massachusetts Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals created a Neighborhood Policing partnership.

Captain Dunford expressed his thanks in a letter to League President Arthur Slade: "The combined task force made up of teams of agency, staff and officers of the CSO made an impact that was nothing short of amazing. Today, they (neighborhood youth) know there are rules and laws concerning animals that they must adhere to and it is not something that should be taken lightly." As members of the task force, Officers Borgal and White were commended as "their knowledge and understanding of the laws and procedures available to deal with animal control problems was invaluable. They performed their duties in a manner that brought esteem to their organization and a new found respect from those who would violate its high standards." Captain Dunford looks forward to working with Officers Borgal and White in the future.



(Top left) Director of Operations Ed Powers (l) and President Arthur Slade (r) present a certificate to Director of Membership Laura MacFeeley (center) for her fifteen years of dedicated service to the League.

(top right) It's all smiles for switchboard receptionist Connie Hicks-Taylor (l) and shelter veterinary technician Sandra Dustin (r), posing with President Slade (center) who is congratulating them for their five years of devoted service to the League.

"With Gratitude and Appreciation" reads the plaque President Slade presented to ambulance driver James Pernavas for his ultimate achievement of twenty-five years of generous service to the League.

Santa and his helpers pose with our friends in uniform and halters at the 83rd Christmas Dinner for Horses.

League Says Thank You To Its Employees

The Animal Rescue League of Boston's greatest asset is its employees. The 1996 Holiday Party gave the League the opportunity to show appreciation to all its hard working and caring employees as well as recognize many individuals for their dedicated long-term service. Certificates and pins were awarded for one, five, ten, and fifteen years of service. A special plaque was presented to ambulance driver James Pernavas for his wonderful twenty-five years of service to the League and the many animals he has helped during his tenure. Thanks Jim!

Other employees receiving recognition were: for one year of service - Sonia DiTommaso, Vicky DoVale, Linda McKoy, Christine Latteo, Deanna MacMillian, Aliana Bellucci, Amy Deleski, Steven O'Rourke, Christopher Charbonneau, Brenda Baum, Brad Munroe, Hillary Twining and Michelle LoConte; for five years of service - Ann Quill, Connie Hicks-Taylor and Sandra Dustin; for ten years of service - Alan Cunningham and Dr. Shophet; and for fifteen years of service - Laura MacFeeley.

League Celebrates Annual Holiday Dinner for Horses

Santa paid his 83rd annual Yuletide visit to Faneuil Hall to honor the city's working horses. The gallant steeds, along with their mounts from the Boston and State Police as well as the Boston Park Rangers, were invited to the traditional feast of sweet feed, apples, and carrots. Treats were donated by Santa's helpers at the H.K. Webster Company in Derry, New Hampshire.

The tradition of the Christmas Dinner for Horses started in 1913 when there were thousands of working horses in the greater Boston area, especially in the Marketplace-Faneuil Hall area, and has continued each season since. At the turn of the century, horses were the main source of transportation and goods. The holiday meal was a thank-you for the hard working animals, and an opportunity to check them and their quarters to make sure that the equines were well cared for by their owners. Special thanks to Santa (a.k.a. Mike Thomas) and his helpers in the League's Law Enforcement department and employees Deanna Macmillan, Allison Vinkels, and Diane Day for helping to make the event festive!

Nurse Gwen Beals performs a little needle and thread surgery on "Sealy" while concerned parent Alexa Latteo looks on.

Teddy Bear Clinic and Tea

Children of all ages attended the Teddy Bear Clinic and Tea held at League headquarters on January 25. Many stuffed animal friends stopped by for minor repairs, including a stuffed dog that had gotten a bit too friendly with a real canine, and a huge buzzard almost as big as its adult owner. Each child wore a teddy bear name badge while stuffed toys received an ID tag (to help teach the importance of pet ID tags). Guests played at the craft corner, watched educational videos and feasted on cookies and punch.

Holiday Happy Ending for Hooch

Two days before Christmas a man from Newton, Massachusetts, found a black lab at a New Jersey rest area. Assuming the dog to be abandoned since it did not have a collar or ID tag, the man brought the dog back to Massachusetts and then to the Animal Rescue League of Boston shelter.

Dispatcher Diane Mollaghan spent Christmas Eve contacting authorities in Sandyhook, New Jersey, including animal control, local police, the local SPCA, and the ranger's station at Sandyhook Reservation. A few hours later the ranger's station called with a possible match. The black lab turned out to be "Hooch," beloved pet of Charles Psau of Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey. Psau had been walking Hooch on reservation land the day before when Hooch got away from him. He reported the dog missing and hoped for a holiday miracle. On Christmas Eve, the League

called Psau with the happy news that Hooch would be coming home.

It took a couple of days to make arrangements. On December 27, ambulance driver James Pernavas drove Hooch back home to New Jersey. Charles Psau and his son where waiting at the Thomas Edison rest stop. The long journey was worth it for Pernavas when he witnessed the joyous reunion between man and man's best friend.

Please remember to always keep a collar and ID tag on your pet.

Paws up to SONY Theatres

Allison Gillette (pictured), managing director of SONY Theatres in Copley Place, recently invited the League to display information regarding the serious problem of pet overpopulation. The event coincided with the release of Disney's 101 Dalmatians and provided a unique opportunity to educate moviegoers

about the importance of spaying and neutering pets. Allison and her staff displayed the League's banner over the concession stand and sold pawprints for $1 each at the ticket office. During the premiere week, over 800 pawprints were bought. The funds were donated to the League's shelters. On behalf of our animal friends, we send a grateful thank you to Allison and the staff at SONY!

Birthday Wishes

Happy Birthday, Mrs. Keswick! (pictured) In January, guests gathered at the Bayview Assisted Living Home in South Boston to celebrate the 95th birthday of former League employee Dorothy Keswick. Among the guests was League President Arthur Slade, who helped Mrs. Keswick cut her birthday cake. Recalling her tenure as a clerk in the Lost and Found Department, Mrs. Keswick has fond memories of her days at the former League headquarters at 51 Carver Street. "I enjoyed working at the League and saw many joyous moments as well as many tears." She had the opportunity to reunite many pets with their owners before retiring in 1967 after 26 years of service. Her dedication created many happy moments for those who were reunited through your efforts. We thank her and wish her many happy years.

Tribute Tree Remembers Pets

This past holiday season the Animal Rescue League of Boston paid tribute to some special animal friends. The first annual Tribute Tree gave owners the opportunity to honor the memory of a beloved pet now deceased or show appreciation for their current animal companion. The tree was lit in recognition of these animals and an ornament was hung with the animal's name. The following fourfooted friends were honored:

Muriel Allen in memory of her dog "Sammy"

Kathleen Anderson in memory of her cat "Saber"

Isabel Blakemore in memory of her cat "Emily"

Clarita Bright in memory of her pony "Darling Kiwi"

The Ciano Family in memory of their dog "Nicky"

Donna Domenico in memory of her dog "Kinda"

Catherine & Jonathan Gargill in memory of their cat "Snow-B"

Elizabeth and David Marcus in memory of their dog "Emily"

Elizabeth and David Marcus in memory of their rabbit "Dudley"

Julia V. McDonough in memory of her dog "Saul"

Norman Ramos in memory of Kathryn Hines' cat "Sedona"

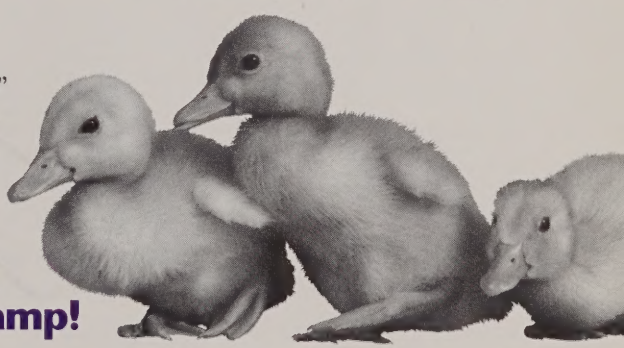
Peggy Turchette in memory of her dog "Abby"

Peggy Turchette in memory of her cat "Quigley"

Nancy & Robert Wellman in memory of their cat "Marshmellow"

Nancy & Robert Wellman in memory of their dog "Gopher"

Nancy & Robert Wellman in memory of their cat "Sidney"



Are You Ready for the Summer? It's Time to Sign Up for Animal Friends Summer Camp!

The League's Animal Friends Summer Camp in Cataumet, celebrating its 48th season, is once again welcoming youngsters living or vacationing on Cape Cod to sign up for a fun-filled summer! Focused on encouraging proper attitudes and respect for all living things, the camp offers such activities as small pet care, ocean ecology, horse care, farm life, arts and crafts and photography. Please call the League's humane education department at 617-426-9170 for registration information. Sessions fill up quickly so don't delay—we look forward to seeing you at camp!

Session I– June 30 to July 18, 1997
Children entering third grade and up to age 13.
Registration Fee: $285 full-day ($235 each additional child)
$190 half-day ($170 each additional child)

Session II – July 21 to August 15, 1997
Children entering grades 1, 2, or 3 in the fall.
Registration Fee: $380 full-day ($310 each additional child)
$255 half-day ($215 each additional child)

Annual Pet Show– Saturday, July 26, 1997
9:00 a.m., Nye Field, North Falmouth
(Rain date: July 27)

'96 Annual Report

The year 1996 marked the League's 98th year of service, bringing us within two years of our 100th Anniversary of service to animals. Our Centennial Celebration Committee is hard at work planning for appropriate events to honor this most special occasion. It will be exciting to look back at the events of the past and at the same time look forward to see what the future holds in the way of new challenges. The wisdom and foresight of our founder, Anna Harris Smith, may well provide much in the way of guiding principles for the future.

The outstanding event and a major victory for the humane movement in Massachusetts was the passage of Question One on the ballot in last November's election. With the passage of this Initiative Petition, we saw the long-sought ban on the use of steel jaw leghold traps in this Commonwealth. We applaud all the organizations and groups of people who pulled together to make such a victory possible. Most of all, we need to thank the individual members and friends like you without whom such a momentous victory would not have been possible. The citizens of Massachusetts came forward with an overwhelming number of votes. It sets a new standard for the rest of the nation to follow.

We also continued our efforts in monitoring legislation and appearing at legislative hearings to insure that new and revised laws are humane and in the best interest of animals.

Our shelter and ambulance teams have been busy with all types of rescue work. We continue a high level of training for the safety and success of these workers, some of whom have even written pamphlets based on those rescue experiences. One such item relates to the hazards created for waterfowl by carelessly discarding things such as fishing line and fish hooks. The generosity of our friends has also made it possible for us to acquire three new special pieces of rescue equipment. One is an ice sled which makes it possible to do most ice rescues without risking the safety of our staff members and greatly increasing the chances of a safe rescue of the animal that has broken through the ice or is on very thin ice.

Another piece of special rescue equipment, made possible by a generous donation from Red Acre Farm, is a Coda Net Launcher, which provides for the safe and humane capture of unapproachable animals by the remote release of a large net. The third device, donated by our good friend and member Henry Wiggin, is a Buchanan Handler, which has the unique ability to grasp an animal, conform to its shape, and minimize harming it. These items have been a tremendous aid in helping us live up to the fact that "Rescue" is our middle name. In this regard, our ambulance agents responded to nearly 8,500 calls for animals in need or distress.

Pet adoptions continued at a rapid pace throughout the year and this was especially true at our North Shore facility which saw an increase of 7% more dogs and cats received and a 17% increase in the number of adoptions. The year ahead will see a special effort to increase the number of all types of adoptions.

Rescue me!
'Lucky'
Abandoned dog survives ordeal ... But a good home still needed
Pest Aid for your pets
PET OF THE WEEK
PET OF THE WEEK
PET OF THE WEEK
PET OF THE WEEK
Keep pets cool during the hot summer season
Adopt a Homeless Pet

Our veterinary clinic in Boston continues to show an increased demand for its services and an increase in income to help offset its increasing cost of operation. This included the spaying and neutering of over 1,800 animals at our clinic and another 3,000 such operations were performed by our contract veterinarians at our branch shelters.

Our Law Enforcement staff handled 1,383 cruelty complaints which involved 5,921 animals. These complaints covered a broad range of neglect and abuse, the largest group of animals affected being dogs, cats, and horses.

Our inspectors also continued their inspections of places where animals are maintained or used, such as pet shops, riding stables, and laboratories. These inspections covered the care of 107,603 animals, including dogs, cats, sheep, cows, swine, horses, primates, birds, fish, reptiles, rabbits and other small miscellaneous animals.

The rabies control work for the City of Boston has been especially busy in light of the continual presence of rabies in Massachusetts. Last year, 1,580 cases of animal bites were reported to us. The majority were quarantined in the owner's home, but 266 of these cases were quarantined at our Boston shelter because of special circumstances or because the owner was unknown. There were 109 animals that required a laboratory examination for rabies.

Our Education Department has continued its activities on many fronts, with increased demand for school presentations and shelter tours. Animal Friends Summer Camp experienced another banner year with enrollment in the full day program being extremely popular.

A new aspect of our outreach effort was having Rena Bly come on board as our full-time Volunteer Coordinator. We are seeing a growing group of friends who are helping on a regular basis with a variety of interesting and special projects. As we grow closer to our 100th anniversary in 1999, our volunteers will be an ever-increasing and vital support group as part of our celebration of this event.

A queen and her curious kittens watch for an adoptive family to pass by their cage.

Oops! When Spaying or Neutering Comes After the Fact, There are Some Things You Should Know...

by Sonia DiTommaso

Each day 10,000 humans are born in the United States—and each day 70,000 puppies and kittens are born. Pet overpopulation is an ever-spreading epidemic in our society. Humane societies such as the Animal Rescue League of Boston need your help in lowering the staggering statistics.

Millions of puppies and kittens are born every year: an unspayed female cat, her mate and all of her offspring, producing two litters per year, with 2.8 surviving kittens per litter, can total 11,606,077 cats in a span of nine years. While many will find loving homes, the majority face neglect, abandonment, abuse, starvation, or worse.

The most humane solution to pet overpopulation is the simple procedure of spaying and neutering all pets as this will contribute greatly to eliminating the epidemic. All pets adopted from the Animal Rescue League of Boston are required to be spayed or neutered before going to their new homes. If pets are not old enough to have the operation at the time of adoption, the adopter must agree to have the animal spayed or neutered at the appropriate age.

Dogs and cats do not need to have a litter before being spayed. In fact, veterinarians recommend spaying before the first heat cycle to reduce the risk of cancer and mammary tumors. Parents who want their children to view the "miracle of birth" are encouraged to watch videotapes rather than put their pets through pregnancy. However...

If you are the owner of an unspayed female cat or dog, there is always the chance that she will reproduce. An unneutered male cat or dog allowed to roam will seek out females in heat. While the League advocates spaying and neutering rather than breeding, there is important information responsible pet owners should know about the care of an expectant mother dog (whelping bitch) or cat (queen) as well as the impending litter.

Although the information provided in this article pertains to cats and dogs, all pets should visit the veterinarian on a regular basis for exams, updates on vaccinations, and dental care. Animals who will be or are expectant mothers require special care before, during, and after pregnancy.

Prior to Gestation

It is imperative that dogs and cats be healthy, at optimal birthing weight, and free of parasites prior to breeding. During gestation and lactation, their bodies are constantly changing and being in prime physical condition will help them to prepare for the experience. The newborns will also benefit from the mother being healthy and up to date on her vaccinations as she can easily pass disease and sickness on to her young.

Pregnancy should not occur until the animal has reached maturity, which occurs between ten and twelve months of age. In most cases, it is advised that breeding be postponed until after the second estrus, or heat cycle. The normal adult size of the pet may be stunted if it becomes pregnant prematurely.

During Gestation

The gestation period for cats and dogs is nine weeks. Maintaining a nutritious diet is always an important factor contributing to your pet's good health and it is most important during pregnancy. Mom will need a great deal of energy to take care of herself and her litter. A proper diet will help to keep her healthy and provide the extra energy she needs to nurse and train her young. Remember, depending on the size of the litter, she may be eating for six or more!

While a healthy diet is needed, we must also be careful not to overfeed our expectant pets. Diet should be increased gradually during pregnancy so that by

Note: *This article is in no way intended to be used as a "how-to" guide for breeding cats and dogs. The Animal Rescue League of Boston advocates spaying and neutering in an effort to curb the epidemic of pet overpopulation. However, the welfare of animals during all possible stages of their lives must be taken into consideration. The intent is to provide education to assist those who have found themselves in the unfortunate position of having to care for a mother and her litter and not knowing what is entailed in the process. It would be irresponsible on the part of a humane society to not recognize the fact that accidental or planned breeding occurs-or not to provide information that will promote responsible pet ownership. Please spay and neuter your pets.*

the time the birthing process is about to begin, the food intake should be 25% more than at the pre-pregnancy stage. During the last three to four weeks of gestation and during lactation, diet is critical to prevent mom from utilizing her own body tissues. She will need her strength to take care of herself and her newborns.

A recommended diet should contain at least 25% protein, 17% fat, 1-1.8% calcium and 0.8-1.6% phosphorous. *However, do not give any calcium or Vitamin D supplements to your pet as this could result in soft tissue calcification and physical anomalies in the puppies or kittens.*

Preparing for the new arrivals

As the time draws near to birth of the litter, a maternity or whelping box will need to be in place for the birthing process. The box should have low sides around the sleeping area and be large enough for the mother and litter to move around comfortably. Place the box in a clean, draft-free area and line it with removable material. Lining material such as blankets, sheets, or paper should be clean and sanitary when first placed in the box. Newsprint is not recommended as it may contain toxic ink and can become messy when wet.

Most queens and bitches will appear restless prior to labor and will begin nesting. Introduce your pet to the maternity box daily so the area becomes comfortable and familiar. Do not be surprised, however, if she decides to find her own place to give birth. Other indicators that birth is imminent include a sagging appearance, breasts becoming enlarged and reddish, and her food intake and rectal temperature possibly decreasing. While your pet should be monitored during labor, in most cases, she should be left alone to deliver her litter. The normal birth takes place between 2-3 hours. If birthing time is prolonged or the mother becomes overly distressed, immediately contact your veterinarian.

They're Here!

The mother will clean her babies shortly after birth and encourage them to nurse. Like all newborn animals, kittens and puppies should receive colostrum when they begin nursing. High in globulin, colostrum is naturally produced by the mother and enhances immunity and resistance to infectious disease.

Periodically monitor the feedings to ensure that all littermates have a chance to nurse. This is especially critical within the first few hours of birth. They may need assistance at first because their eyes will not open and their ears will not function until they are 10-16 days old.

If the queen or bitch is unable to feed her litter, an eyedropper may be used in an emergency. Consult your veterinarian as soon as possible to determine what formula should be used for feeding as well as what should be done to help the new mother.

Lactation

The lactating queen needs two-to-three times more dietary energy than she did for maintenance and should be encouraged to eat as much as possible. Her diet must consist of an excellent, high quality, high energy cat food to encourage adequate milk production and optimal growth of her kittens. The food should contain 12% more fat and 35% more protein, 1.0-1.8% calcium, and 0.8-1.8% phosphorus. At approximately three weeks of age, kittens should be encouraged to start eating solid foods and should be fed the same diet as the queen. The weaning period for cats and dogs is usually completed by the fourth week.

The lactating bitch with an average to large litter will generally require the following amounts of food:

1st Week: 1.5 times the amount needed for maintenance

2nd Week: Twice the amount needed for maintenance

3rd Week: Three times the amount needed for maintenance (weaning begins)

This is normally a very stressful time so it is important to provide a diet which will give the new mother a sufficient amount of energy.

Spaying and Neutering

The mother can be spayed shortly after the litter has been weaned and the mammary glands are less distended and have less milk. Optimum time for surgery is 6-10 weeks after birth of the litter. Responsible pet owners are encouraged to spay and neuter the litter between 5-6 months of age.

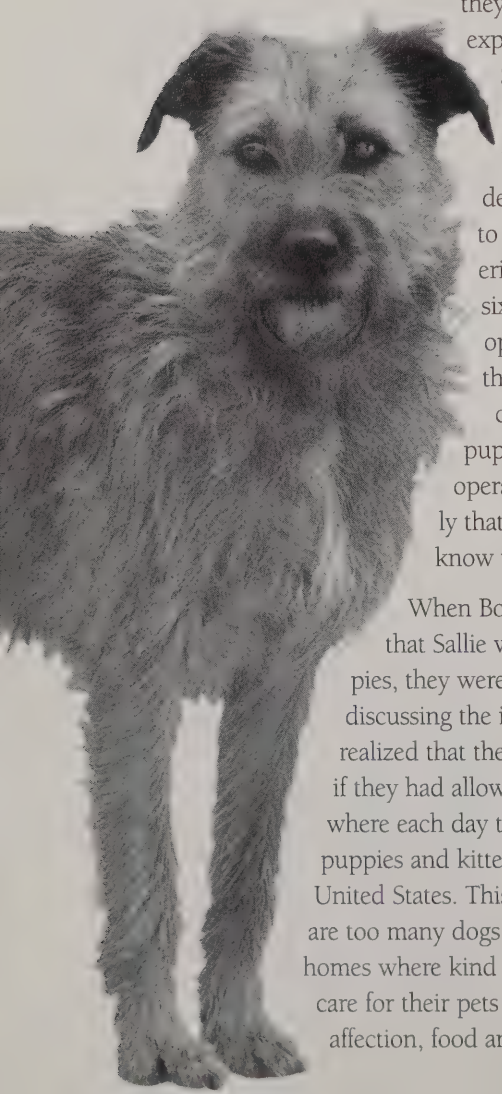
"Hey, Mom! We're over here!" These puppies will soon discover who will be the leader of their pack.

Animal Fri

A special feature for our younger readers

Adding and multiplying is easy It's about time we learn to subtract

Bobby, who is eight, and his sister Jill, who is six, have a dog Sallie, who is almost one. Bobby and Jill really enjoy having a dog in their family, so much so that they have been thinking about expanding their family and letting Sallie have a litter of puppies.



Bobby and Jill's Mom and Dad, however, have already decided that Sallie is never going to be a parent; they had the veterinarian spay her when she was six months old. Spaying is an operation that removes organs that would give a female dog or cat the ability to give birth to puppies or kittens. After her spay operation, Sallie recovered so quickly that Bobby and Jill did not even know what had happened.

When Bobby and Jill heard the news that Sallie would not be able to have puppies, they were somewhat disappointed. After discussing the issue with their parents, they realized that they would be more disheartened if they had allowed Sallie to add to a world where each day there are seven times as many puppies and kittens born as humans in the United States. This creates a problem where there are too many dogs and cats and not enough good homes where kind and responsible owners will care for their pets and provide the warmth, affection, food and shelter that all pets need.

Some dogs and cats will become part of a "disposable" society, being discarded just like an old torn-up teddy bear. A number of these dogs and cats will end up roaming the streets, exposed to the elements, and running the risk of getting hit by a car or starving to death. Other dogs and cats will be brought to humane shelters where they may live out the rest of their lives with other unwanted, neglected pets.

Bobby and Jill now understand how serious the pet overpopulation problem is and they want to try to come up with a solution to help control this situation. It is time to stop adding to a world that seems to be raining cats and dogs.

What can Bobby and Jill do to help spread the word about pet overpopulation?

* Called their local humane organization and ask for information about the pet overpopulation problem.
* Spread the news to friends and neighbors about the pet overpopulation problem. Urge those who have dogs and cats to spay and neuter them. Point out that spaying and neutering not only helps decrease the pet overpopulation problem, but it most likely will allow pets to live happy, healthy, and longer lives.
* With their parents, make a list of low-cost spaying and neutering programs in their area.

ends

friend of the quarter

Dear Kory,

I was wondering if you could help me. I am doing a class assignment on lagamorphs, the species which includes rabbits, hares and pikas. I would like to know what the difference is between a rabbit and a hare?

Most people believe that rabbits and hares only differ in their physical traits — this is untrue. In fact, the species of lagamorphs, to which rabbits and hares belong (they are not rodents), can be characterized as having long hind legs, long ears, and a puffy, short cotton tail. Of course to look at a hare one would see that it is usually a larger sized, longer eared, and longer legged lagamorph than a rabbit. Hares can also be distinguished by their seasonal color change; rabbits usually stay the same color year round. Rabbits and hares differ in their burrowing behaviors. Rabbits are burrowers and make networks of dens below the earth's surface. Hares do not burrow, and though jackrabbits and cottontail rabbits are referred to as "rabbits," they are actually hares because they make nests or "forms" instead of burrowing. Another difference between rabbits and hares is that hares, like guinea pigs, give birth to well developed, furred bunnies. If you have ever seen the young of rabbits, they are born naked, with no fur. Have you ever heard the expression "quick as a rabbit"? Well it should actually be "quick as a hare." This is because, though most rabbits and hares leap or hop, hares are much faster leapers than rabbits. So as you see, rabbits and hares are definitely allies of one another, but when comparing them closely, they have their own distinct qualities!!

Hey Kids!

Do you have a question for Kory? Write in and if your question gets published in *Our Fourfooted Friends* magazine, you'll receive a free autographed picture of Kory, and an Animal Rescue League t-shirt. Send your questions to:

Questions for Kory
The Animal Rescue League of Boston, P.O. Box 265, Boston, MA 02117

True collectors — students of Lynch school's fourth grade class.

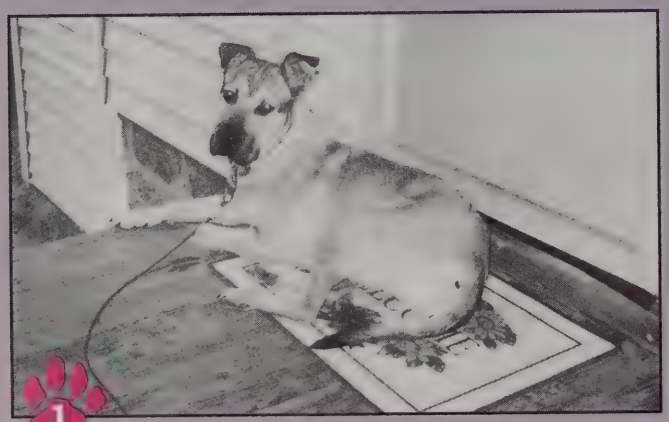
After learning about the many efforts of the Animal Rescue League last Fall, the fourth graders of Lynch School in Winchester were prompted to start a collection site in their main lobby. They created a colorful poster that urged students and faculty to donate blankets, towels, toys, pet food and pet carriers to the Animal Rescue League of Boston. They were able to fill two boxes with donations. Thanks to all who donated, the animals here at the Animal Rescue League can enjoy their gifts!

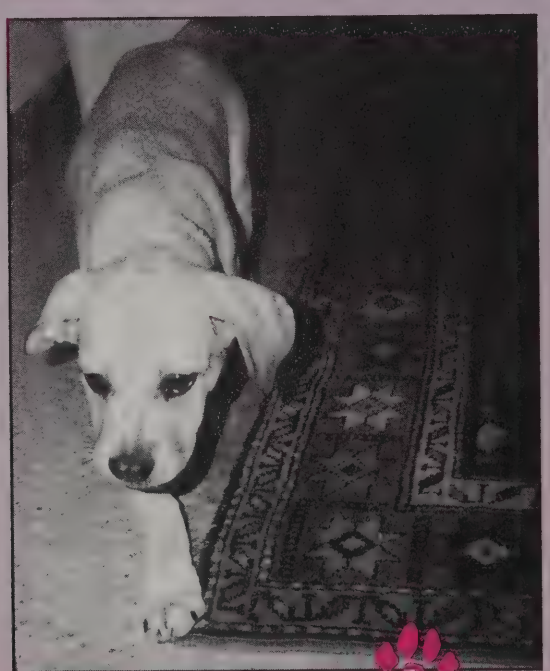
If you or someone you know has been performing good deeds on behalf of our animal friends send us a photo and letter with all the details! If we publish your story we'll send you a League t-shirt! **Send entries to:**

Friend of the Quarter
Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265, Boston, MA 02117

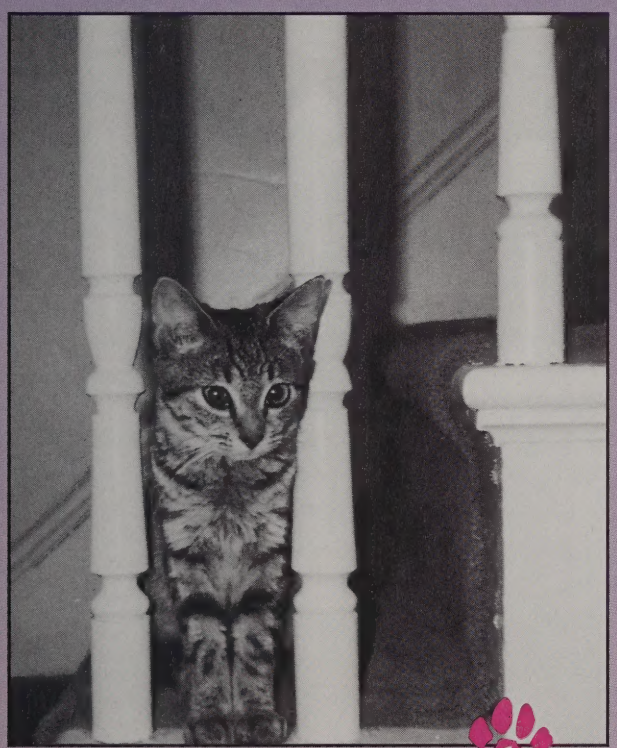
Participants must be twelve years of age or younger.

Pets in the





Picture



1.

Barbara Gallaher of Roslindale is "very pleased with 'Simon' and can't imagine life without his helping (her) to do everything from laundry to yard work to paying the bills."

2.

"Oliver" (top) and "Company" "really are a pleasure," says Jacqueline DeStefano of Melrose. Jacqueline enjoys the fact that her children are getting a chance to watch other 'youngsters' grow up with them.

3.

"Kodiak" is doing very well, report Tony and Alice Balcer of Nantucket. They tell us, "she and Chris, who is five, love to play together."

4.

"Cobweb" is pictured in one of his strange spots to sleep. Steven and Melissa Peters of W. Yarmouth tell us that "Cobweb" is Melissa's shadow when she's home, following her "even to the shower!"

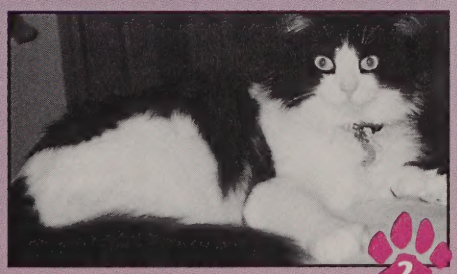
5.

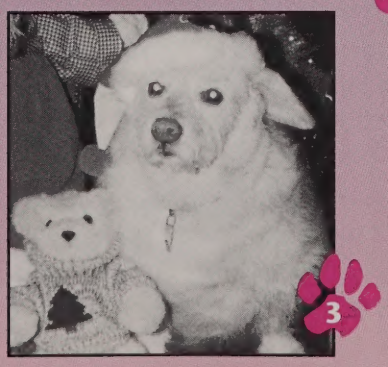
"Tasha" (top) is pictured with her friend "Kisha." "Tasha" was adopted three years ago from the League's Dedham shelter. Lester Davis of South Walpole says, "she has been a joy for our family every day since."

6.

When "Taffy" went home to live with the Phillips' of Woburn, "she slept for the first two weeks before awakening into an adorable and playful pet. She is extremely smart and sociable and has added immeasurably to our lives," say the Phillips.

Gone But Not Forgotten





1. *"Libby"*

"Libby" was a cherished member of the Slade family. A faithful companion who loved to lean and nuzzle, this 9 1/2 year-old beauty passed away suddenly. She will be fondly remembered and sadly missed by her human pack as well as her feline friends, "Brewster," "Sheldon," "Baxendale," and especially "Safford."

2. *"Charlie"*

"He gave us so much!" says Priscilla Stahl of Eastham of her and her husband's beloved cat, "Charlie." "'Charlie' met people at the door, loved to ride in the car and visit." The Stahls say "Charlie" was "a beautiful perfect cat."

3. *"Teddy"*

"Teddy" was such a part of the family, he was more like a human than a dog. "Teddy" was adopted from the League's Boston shelter by Helen Ferris and her family, of Hyde Park, and he was "truly loved."

Sit Up & Beg

Terry Ober, from the League's Dedham shelter, instructs staff on proper use of the new ice rescue sled at a recent training session. Thanks to all who participated in the "Putting for Pets" golf tournament held last fall—your generosity made purchasing the sled a reality! Our animal friends, especially birds who have already been rescued using the sled, thank you too!

The staff at the League has come up with the following "wish list" of items that would add to the safety, care, or comfort of our animal friends. If you would like to donate any of these items, or contribute toward the purchase of a piece of equipment, please call (617) 426-9170.

8mm Camcorder with 3" LCD screen
Would be used to tape rescues for educational training purposes; $600.

Towels and blankets
Used to line cages for warmth after bathing.

Hospital-type incubators
Used in shelters.

Thank You

We would like to gratefully thank the following friends for their generous contributions:

Thanks to the folks at Newton Flooring Tile & Carpet, Watertown, MA. for their generous donations of carpet squares for use in our Humane Education Programs.

Here's Your Chance to Volunteer

Greetings from the volunteer department! Our volunteers have been very busy this winter providing invaluable assistance to our staff and four-legged friends here at the League. Many thanks to those shelter managers and staff members who took time out from their busy schedules to train the volunteers! We currently have active volunteers at our Dedham and Boston branches, and are looking forward to starting the volunteer program at the Salem and Brewster branches this spring.

Volunteer opportunities are available in the following areas: Humane Education, Animal Care, Public Relations, Special Events, and Administration. If you would like more information about becoming a volunteer at the League, please contact Rena Bly at (617)426-9170, ext. 126.

Show Your Support!

Show your support and help spread awareness of the Animal Rescue League of Boston by wearing and using these new League items!

All of these promotional items may be purchased at League locations in Boston, Brewster, Dedham and Salem, or may be ordered by mail. Colors are blue and white.

Tote Bag
$12.00 ea.

Ceramic Coffee Mug
$3.00 ea.

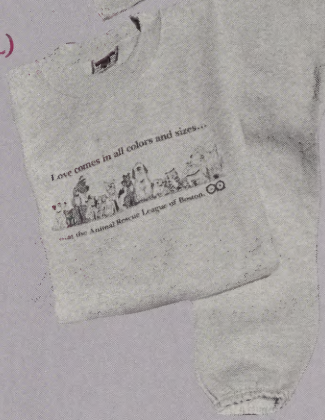
Blue Ribbon Pin
$5.00 ea.

T-Shirt (S, M, L, XL)
$10.00 ea.

Children's (S, M, L)
$7.00 ea.

Sweatshirt (S, M, L, XL)
$18.00 ea.

Children's (S, M, L)
$15.00 ea.



Sweatpants (S, M, L, XL)
$18.00 ea.

Insulated Travel Mug
$ 3.50 ea.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation
(Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685)

1. Publication Title	2. Publication No.	3. Filing Date
Our Fourfooted Friends	0 0 3 0 - 6 8 5 1	October 1, 1996
4. Issue Frequency	5. No. of Issues Published Annually	6. Annual Subscription Price
Quarterly	Four	$4.00

7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Street, City, County, State, and ZIP+4) (Not Printer)
10 Chandler Street, Boston, Suffolk, MA. 02116

8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not Printer)
10 Chandler Street, Boston, MA. 02116

9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do Not Leave Blank)
Publisher (Name and Complete Mailing Address)
Animal Rescue League of Boston, 10 Chandler Street, Boston, MA. 02116

Editor (Name and Complete Mailing Address)
Arthur G. Slade, 10 Chandler Street, Boston, MA. 02116

Managing Editor (Name and Complete Mailing Address)

10. Owner (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereafter the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address as well as that of each individual must be given. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, its name and address must be stated.) (Do Not Leave Blank.)

Full Name	Complete Mailing Address
Animal Rescue League of Boston	10 Chandler Street, Boston, MA. 02116

13. Publication Name	14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below
Our Fourfooted Friends	Summer, 1996

15. Extent and Nature of Circulation	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total No. Copies (Net Press Run)	23,006	23,275
b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation (1) Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, and Counter Sales (Not Mailed)	NONE	NONE
(2) Paid or Requested Mail Subscriptions (Include Advertisers' Proof Copies/Exchange Copies)	21,329	20,973
c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 15b(1) and 15b(2))	21,329	20,973
d. Free Distribution by Mail (Samples, Complimentary, and Other Free)	145	150
e. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or Other Means)	1,250	1,600
f. Total Free Distribution (Sum of 15d and 15e)	1,395	1,750
g. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15f)	22,724	22,723
h. Copies Not Distributed (1) Office Use, Leftovers, Spoiled	282	552
(2) Return from News Agents	NONE	NONE
i. Total (Sum of 15g, 15h(1), and 15h(2))	23,006	23,275
Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation (15c / 15g x 100)	93.8%	92.3%

16. This Statement of Ownership will be printed in the Spring issue of this publication. ☐ Check box if not required to publish.

17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner — Date
Editor — 10-1-96

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including multiple damages and civil penalties).

Please send me:

Quantity	Item	Size	Cost
Total *(Please add $3.00 for shipping and handling for orders $10 and over or if ordering two or more ceramic mugs.)*			

NAME

STREET

CITY STATE ZIP

Enclosed is my check or money order in the amount of $ _____ made payable to the Animal Rescue League of Boston. (Please remember shipping and handling charge if applicable.) Please allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.

Mail to: Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265, Boston, MA 02117

The President and Board of Directors cordially invite you to attend our

Annual Meeting

Date: Thursday, April 24, 1997

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Location: League Headquarters
Corner of Arlington & Tremont Streets
Boston, Massachusetts

Program: Annual Meeting, Election of Directors
Guest Speaker—President of the American Humane Association

Our fourfooted friends (US ISSN 0030 6851)
Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265 Boston, Massachusetts 02117

Address Correction Requested